(d) if so, whether the matter has been gone into, if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to increase the frequency of these services and improve their running conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The frequency of route Nos. 168 and 913 is 40|80 minutes and 23|46 minutes during peak and non-peak hours respectively.

(b) to (d) Number of buses plying on these routes are nine. The services are maintained as per the laid down frequency. Certain complaints regarding irregularity of operation of buses on route No. 168 were received. These were looked into, and instructions were issued for ensuring regular operation of services. There is no proposal to increase frequency on these routes as the services are adequately catering to the needs of the commuters.

Delayed departure|arrival of Kerala Express

2235. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) on how many occasions the Kerala Express was delayed for departure and arrival in New Delhi during January and February, 1989;

(b) what were the causes of these delays; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Departure... 21 days. Arrival...44 days.

(b) Electrification works, alarm chain pulling and equipment failures.

(c) The punctuality will improve soon as electrification works on North|South route get completed.

"क्रेच-सेन्टर" संचालित करने वाली संस्थाओं को अनुदान

2236. श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि 1987-88 और 1988-89 के वर्षों के दौरान केन्द्रीय समाज कल्याण बोर्ड द्वारा दो या अधिक "क्रेच सेंटरों" के संचालनार्थ कितनी संस्थाओं को अनुदानों का अनुमोदन किया गया है और कितनी संस्थाओं के अनुदानों का भुगतान उनके अनुमोदन के पश्चात लंबित पड़ा हुआ है ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में युवा कार्य और खेल तथा महिला और बाल विकास विभागों में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती मारग्रेट अल्वा) : केन्द्रीय समाज कल्याण बोर्ड और राज्य सलाहकार बोर्डों से सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Conversion of Rail Lines in Punjab

2237. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of ongoing railway projects for conversion of metre gauge rail lines into broad gauge in Punjab;

(b) whether more rail lines are proposed to be undertaken for conversion in the near future in that State; if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether survey for conversion of Fazilka-Kotkapure rail line was done; if so, what are the details thereof and by when it is likely to be converted; and

(d) whether it is a fact that after conversion, this line would be very useful to meet the defence needs in the border belt; if so, whether Government propose to include this line in the projects for gauge conversion; if so, by when and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : (a) There are no on-going gauge conversion projects in Punjab.